

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE

POLICY

NV P 451.1A

9-15-97

Subject: COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE NEVADA TEST SITE

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The DOE Nevada Operations Office (DOE/NV) is considering a number of proposals to permit the use of portions of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) for commercial activities. These commercial activities would utilize land space within the boundaries of the NTS under an economic development use permit. This policy defines how these workers are classified for human health impacts assessments under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), safety and health, and emergency management documentation.

POLICY

The DOE/NV is committed to ensuring that all Department Of Energy work at the NTS is conducted efficiently and in a manner that ensures protection of workers, the public, and the environment. It is DOE/NV policy that commercial activity personnel who are authorized access to the NTS to perform work are classified as "General Employees" as defined by Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations 835. As a "General Employee," workers at onsite commercial facilities will be defined as non-involved site workers for purposes of NEPA review for DOE activities at the NTS.

It is DOE/NV policy to identify and evaluate the various site hazards as they could impact or be impacted by commercial activities proposed for the NTS through the Work Acceptance Process. The siting of commercial activities within the boundaries of the NTS will take into consideration the presence of nuclear facilities, health hazards (e.g., soil contamination), and hazardous activities at the NTS. An evaluation of these hazards for each proposal, based to the extent possible on existing NEPA, safety and health, and emergency management documentation, will be performed and provided to the DOE decision makers before the siting decision is finalized. These considerations will include the potential effects the commercial activity could have on current and foreseeable DOE operations at the NTS.

INITIATED BY:
Technology Diversification Initiative

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

To prevent or mitigate worker exposure to hazards associated with DOE activities at the NTS, past and present, the following administrative controls will be implemented for workers at on-site commercial facilities:

1. Necessary training requirements and informed consent will be established to ensure workers are aware of potential hazards at the NTS, access controls, and actions to be taken in the event of abnormal events or site emergencies.
2. Access to NTS areas will be administratively limited to specified areas.
3. Commercial activities will be integrated into the DOE/NV Emergency Management System.

G. W. Johnson

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